

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment of a ~~plurality of information signals, comprising digital signals, entering said environment and being~~ transmitted according to different standards, at least some of said digital signals being reserved digital signals which are reserved to predetermined signal sockets of said condominium and/or community environment, and the remainder of said digital signals, if any, being nonreserved digital signals, said system, comprising

~~means—(1,4,14',19)~~ for receiving said digital signals,

~~means—(2,5,7) for the amplification and the standard amplifying and converting the frequency conversion frequencies of~~ said digital signals,

~~means—(3) for mixing said information reserved and non-reserved signals on a distribution network (8) to a plurality of signal sockets (9), at least a part of said digital signals being reserved to predetermined signal sockets (9) among said plurality,~~

~~a plurality of signal sockets operatively connected to said means for mixing for receiving said mixed reserved and non-reserved digital signals,~~

~~wherein, for each of said predetermined signal socket (9), the system provides further means (13, 14, 20) for frequency converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals in into reserved frequency portions (S1), or personal channels, of the band, each of said personal channels being reserved to a the corresponding one of said predetermined signal sockets (9) sockets, and forbidden to the remaining sockets (9) through means (15, 16) operatively connected to each of said predetermined sockets for allowing access to said a corresponding personal channelschannel (S1) of the band only to the corresponding signal sockets (9), said means (13, 14, 20) for frequency converting the frequencies of one or more of the received digital signals in into personal channels (S1) of the band being commanded controlled through respective user control means (11, 17, 18; 40, 51).~~

2 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said means (13, 14, 20) for frequency-converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals in personal channels (S1) of the band make use of the same type of modulation (QAM) for each predetermined socket (9).

3 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the distribution network (8) of the information signals

~~comprise~~ comprises a distribution support ~~(8)~~ realized by means of including a coaxial cable.

4 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the distribution network ~~(8)~~ for the distribution of said information signals ~~comprise~~comprises MMDS and/or LMDS networks.

5 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said personal channel is 8 MHz wide.

6 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the digital signal being present in said personal channel is QAM modulated.

7 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said personal channel is contained in a frequency band being comprised between 47 ~~to~~and 862 MHz.

8 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 7, wherein said frequency band ranges ~~preferably~~ from 230 to 445 MHz.

9 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the means ~~(15, 16)~~ for allowing access to said personal channels ~~(S1)~~ comprises means ~~(15, 16)~~ for filtering ~~the~~ said personal channel, ~~that are located upstream~~ said means for

filtering being operatively connected between the relative signal socket-(9) and said means for mixing reserved and nonreserved digital signals.

10 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 9~~1~~, wherein said filtering means for filtering (15, 16) comprises a band-stop filter (15), for filtering a band corresponding to said personal channel and apt adapted to eliminate the block reception of the personal channels, signals in the filtered band by a receiver (18) through the connected to the signal socket-(9).

11 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 10, wherein said filtering means (15, 16) further comprises, in correspondence of a predetermined signal socket (9), a channelband-pass filter (16) is arranged in parallel to with said band-stop filter (15), and which is apt adapted to let the personal channel pass through to the single user signal socket a signal which is distributed in the personal channel.

12 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the selection of the reserved digital signal signals, the frequencies of which are to be converted in said personal channel channels, is performed by through a return-channel modules operatively connected to said predetermined signal sockets for exchanging signals on a return channel.

13 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is FSK modulated.

14 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is PSK modulated.

15 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is QPSK modulated.

16 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return channel is QAM modulated.

17 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein bidirectional communication is performed ~~said return channel is bi-directional~~ under TDMA procedure.

18 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return channel has a band width of 128 KHz or multiples a multiple of it ~~thereof~~.

19 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return channel is comprised between ~~has a frequency between~~ 41 and 46.5 MHz.

20 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return channel ~~uses~~ is provided on the same coaxial cable of ~~the~~ distribution network ~~(8)~~ of the system.

21 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein each ~~the~~ return channel module ~~used~~ operated by a user makes use of a return channel which is not accessible to all ~~any~~ other ~~users~~ user of the system operating on a different return channel module.

22 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is radiofrequency irradiated.

23 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the means ~~(13, 14, 20)~~ for ~~frequency~~ converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals ~~in~~ into ~~reserved frequency portions~~ ~~(S1)~~, or personal channels, ~~of~~ the band are obtained by means of comprises a transmodulator ~~(13, 20; 29; 41, 42, 43, 44)~~.

24 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein a user terminal ~~(17)~~ and an IRD receiver-decoder ~~(18, 40, 51)~~ are provided at the signal socket ~~(9)~~, which can be operated by a same remote-control ~~(11)~~.

25 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein a single transmodulator device comprises two or more means ~~(13, 14, 20)~~ for ~~frequency~~ converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals ~~in~~ into personal channels ~~(S1) (13,14,20)~~ are contained in a sole transmodulator device ~~(29)~~.

26 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 25, wherein said sole transmodulator device ~~(29)~~ comprises ~~tuner~~ means for tuning ~~(30,32,34)~~, which are apt adapted to perform the selection of said reserved digital signals within at least two frequency ranges, and ~~demodulation~~ means ~~(31,33,35)~~, for demodulating which are apt adapted to demodulate at least two of said digital signals transmitted with different standards.

27 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 26, wherein said transmodulator device ~~(29)~~ includes at least two tuners ~~(30,32,34)~~ for the selection of digital signals, and at least two demodulators ~~(31,33,35)~~ of said digital signals.

28 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 26, wherein said transmodulator device ~~(29)~~ also includes a ~~commutator switch~~ ~~(36)~~ apt adapted for receiving the digital signals coming from said demodulators ~~(31,33,35)~~.

29 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 27~~28~~, wherein said transmodulator device (29) also comprises a modulator (37) for remodulating the output signal of the commutator ~~said switch~~ (36).

30 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 27~~29~~, wherein said transmodulator device (29) also ~~includes~~ comprises a converter (38) for converting ~~in frequency~~ the frequencies of the output signal of said modulator (37) into a personal channel.

31 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said user control means (11, 17, 18, 40) are also ~~apt~~ adapted to generate one or more upstream digital signals ~~in transmission~~ or ~~upstream signals (US)~~ to be transmitted and convert them ~~in their~~ frequency frequencies into the personal ~~channel~~ channels, and that ~~second~~ further comprising

selection and handling means (41, 43) are provided for selecting said upstream digital signals in transmission, and means (4, 14') for the transmission of said upstream signals (US) from to a satellite through an antenna and/or to a service provider through a by-cable.

32 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 31, wherein transmodulator means (42, 44) and the said second selection

means—(41,43) operate respectively on the received downstream signals—(DS) or on upstream signals—(US) QAM modulated under SCPC procedure, respectively.

33 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 31, wherein ~~said personal channel which can be accessed by said user only is used under FDMA procedure, i.e.~~ the upstream signals—(US) and downstream signals—(DS) are simultaneously present in ~~said the same~~ personal channel.

34 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 33, wherein ~~in said personal channel both the upstream signals—(US) and the downstream signals—(DS) occupy not overlapping frequency bands which do not overlap.~~

35 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 31, wherein ~~the personal channel is used under TDMA procedure, i.e.~~ both the upstream signals—(US) and the downstream signals—(DS) are not simultaneously present in the same personal channel.

36 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 31, wherein said transmodulator means—(42,44) and said second selection and handling means—(41,43) are ~~comprised~~ housed in a single container.

37 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the user control means (11, 17, 18, 40, 51) comprise a receiver (51) apt adapted to perform an access function to a plurality of conditioned access services, by reading the information contained in a smart card (52), and that that wherein said information contained in said smart card (52) control controls the means (13, 14, 20) for frequency-converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals in the personal channel.

38 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37, wherein said information contained in the smart card (52) comprise comprises information for tuning transmodulator means (13, 14, 20, 29, 41, 42, 43, 44).

39 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37, wherein said information contained in the smart card (52) comprise information for the tuning of transponder preselection means (12).

40 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 4039, wherein the information for the tuning of the transponder preselection means (12) are is selection information ef for the bands of the channels to be tuned.

41 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 3839, wherein information for the tuning of the transponder preselection means—~~(12)~~ ~~are~~ comprises information for determining the polarization of the channels to be tuned.

42 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 38, wherein said information contained in the smart card—~~(52)~~ ~~comprise~~ comprises frequencies frequency information ~~of~~ ~~for~~ the channels to be tuned.

43 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37, wherein said information contained in the smart card—~~(52)~~ ~~also~~ ~~comprise~~ further comprises frequency information ~~of~~ ~~for~~ said personal channel.

44 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37, wherein the selection means—~~(12,13,14,20,29,41,42,43,44)~~ and the smart card—~~(52)~~ contain respective electronic keys, whose congruence enables the operation of said distribution system ~~of a plurality of signals to a condominium and/or community environment~~.

45 (currently amended). A system for ~~the~~ distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37, wherein the control means—~~(51)~~ contain a device for writing data in

a program memory of a microprocessor contained in the smart card (52).

46 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 45, wherein said program memory is an EEPROM type memory.

47 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 45, wherein the device for writing data in a program memory of a microprocessor contained in the smart card (52) operates on data sent to the control means (51) by a modem.

48 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 45, wherein said device for writing data in a program memory of a microprocessor contained in the smart card (52) operates on data sent to the control means (51) by means of the Service Information contained in the received digital signal.

49 (currently amended). A system for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said means (15, 16) for allowing access to said personal channels (S1) are aptis adapted to prevent the passage of signals generated inside a further distribution network associated to with a signal socket (9), in particular being inside a dwelling or flat.

50 (currently amended). Method for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, of a plurality of information signals, including digitals digital signals, at least

some of said digital signals being reserved digital signals which are reserved to predetermined signal socket-signal sockets of said condominium and/or community in the environment, and the remainder of said digital signals, if any, being nonreserved digital signals, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving said information signals, comprising digital signals;

operating aconverting the frequency conversionfrequencies of the received digital signals;

mixing said reserved and nonreserved digital signals on a distribution network (8) that;

distributing through said distribution network distribute said reserved and nonreserved digital signals to the-a plurality of sockets-(9);

controlling the digital signals received by a specific socket (9) through remote control means;

wherein the step of said converting operating the frequenciesfrequency conversion of the received digital signals comprises the step of operatingconverting the frequency conversion of each reserved digital signal required by a specifieone of said predetermined sockets socket in a reserved frequency portion (S1), or personal channelschannel, that is exclusively associated with a one of said sockets, and in that the steps of controlling the digital signals comprises the step of remote controlling the operation of are controlled by remotely converting the frequency

~~conversion~~ of each reserved digital signal required by a specifies said one predetermined socket in a reserved frequency portion (S1), personal channel for the purpose of selecting the content of said reserved frequency portion (S1) personal channel.

51 (currently amended). Method for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, of a plurality of information digital signals according to claim 50, further comprising the step of operating a frequency selection selecting a frequency in the frequency portion range of each personal channel (S1), said frequency being selected after said reserved and nonreserved digital signals are mixed on between the distribution network (8) and before receiving the reserved digital signals through a receiver (18) associated to the with a respective personal channel (S1).

52 (currently amended). Method for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, of a plurality of information digital signals according to claim 51, further comprising the step of frequency filtering the frequency portions frequencies associated to with the personal channels (S1) after mixing said reserved and nonreserved digital signals on the distribution network and before receiving the reserved digital signals through said receiver between the distribution network (8) and a receiver (18).

53 (currently amended). Method for the distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, of a plurality of

information signals according to claim 51, wherein ~~the step of~~
~~operating~~ converting the frequency conversion of each reserved
digital signal required by a ~~specific~~ predetermined socket ~~in~~ into
~~a reserved frequency portion (S1), or personal channels~~channel,
provides for converts conversion of all of said reserved digital
signals in a unique type of modulation (QAM).